

BILL NO. **95-40**

**AS AMENDED**

COUNTY COUNCIL

OF

HARFORD COUNTY, MARYLAND

BILL NO. 95-40 (as amended)

Introduced by Council President Parrott at the request of the County Executive

Legislative Day No. 95-19 Date June 13, 1995

AN ACT to repeal Subsections 40.B., 40.C., 40.D., 40.F., and 40.G. of §256-40 Establishment; boundaries, of Article III, Other Sanitary Subdistricts, Chapter 256, Water and Sewers, of the Harford County Code, as amended, and to repeal Harford County Council Bill No. 92-38, establishing Harford County Rates (Water and Sewers), and to enact a new schedule of Water and Sewer rates for Harford County to stand in lieu of the Ordinance and rates repealed, to provide that such rates shall apply to all Harford County customers for water and sewer servicing; and to further provide that the rates shall be applied to water consumption and sewer usage on or after the effective date of this Act.

By the Council, June 13, 1995

Introduced, read first time, ordered posted and public hearing scheduled

on: July 11, 1995

at: 6:00 p.m.

By Order: *Joseph A. ...*, Secretary

**PUBLIC HEARING**

Having been posted and notice of time and place of hearing and title of Bill having been published according to the Charter, a public hearing was held on July 11, 1995, and concluded on, July 11, 1995

*Joseph A. ...*, Secretary

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW. (Brackets) indicate matter deleted from existing law. Underlining indicates language added to Bill by amendment. Language lined through indicates matter stricken out of Bill by amendment.

BILL NO. **95-40**

**AS AMENDED**

1 WHEREAS, there exists a need to simplify the existing rate structure for water and  
2 sewer service; and

3 WHEREAS, a revised rate structure is needed to encourage conservation of water  
4 resources so as to encourage wise use and discourage wasteful consumption; and

5 WHEREAS, beneficial revenue and expenditure growth set to an economic  
6 indicator will achieve the continued funding of water and sewer service operations of  
7 Harford County, Maryland; and

8 WHEREAS, the establishment of a more equitable rate structure necessitates the  
9 removal of certain subdistricts; and

10 WHEREAS, the Act conforms to the requirements of law for setting water and sewer  
11 rates; and

12 NOW THEREFORE,

13 Section 1. Be It Enacted By The County Council of Harford County, Maryland, that  
14 Subsections 40.B., 40.C., 40.D., 40.F., and 40.G. of §256-40, Establishment; boundaries,  
15 Article III, Other Sanitary Subdistricts, of Chapter 256, Water and Sewers, of the Harford  
16 County Code, as amended, and Harford County Bill 92-38 establishing Harford County  
17 Rates (Water and Sewers), be and are hereby repealed, and that the following new  
18 simplified rate structure for water and sewer service in Harford County be, and is hereby  
19 enacted to stand in lieu of the rates and ordinance repealed, all to read as follows:

The following rates shall apply to all water customers in Harford County unless otherwise specified.

**HARFORD COUNTY WATER**  
**BASE USAGE CHARGES AND RATES**

(INCLUDING THE JOPPATOWNE SANITARY SUBDISTRICT)

QUARTERLY BILL				
Meter Size Inch	Base Usage Charge \$ AMOUNT	Base Rate \$/1,000 Gallons	Excess Usage Threshold 1,000 Gallons	Excess Usage Rate \$/1,000 Gallons
5/8	\$ 4.10	\$ 1.65	32	\$ 2.05
3/4	\$ 17.90	\$ 1.65	380	\$ 2.05
1	\$ 29.75	\$ 1.65	640	\$ 2.05
1 1/4	\$ 43.05	\$ 1.65	960	\$ 2.05
1 1/2	\$ 60.50	\$ 1.65	1,300	\$ 2.05
2	\$ 95.80	\$ 1.65	2,100	\$ 2.05
3	\$ 201.50	\$ 1.65	3,900	\$ 2.05
4	\$ 297.50	\$ 1.65	6,400	\$ 2.05
6	\$ 605.00	\$ 1.65	12,800	\$ 2.05
8	\$ 1,412.00	\$ 1.65	30,700	\$ 2.05
10	\$ 2,269.00	\$ 1.65	48,600	\$ 2.05
12	\$ 2,975.00	\$ 1.65	64,000	\$ 2.05

In addition, a purchased water service adjustment shall apply to all Harford County

1 water customers.

2 Individual residential services which have a 3/4 inch meter installed shall be billed  
3 as a 5/8 inch meter with a ready-to-serve charge based on the 5/8 inch service connection  
4 size and the 3/4 inch fire connection size.

5 **COMPOUND METER INSTALLATIONS**

6 For those installations which have compound meters installed, the service  
7 connection size shall be based on the largest size register which will be activated during  
8 peak instantaneous flows exclusive of fire flows. If the register activated during peak  
9 domestic and production instantaneous flows is less than the largest register in the meter,  
10 then the fire protection ready-to-serve charge shall also be applied. If two consecutive  
11 quarters of meter readings show that a larger register is being activated, then the minimum  
12 bill will be adjusted upwards to that larger register size and the ready-to-serve charge shall  
13 be adjusted accordingly.

BILL NO. **95-40**

**FALLSTON CORRIDOR WATER  
BASE USAGE CHARGES AND RATES**

**AS AMENDED**

QUARTERLY BILL				
Meter Size Inch	Base Usage Charge \$ Amount	Base Rate \$/1,000 Gallons	Excess Usage Threshold 1,000 Gallons	Excess Usage Rate \$/1,000 Gallons
5/8	\$ 4.74	0.46	32	0.86
3/4	\$ 7.21	0.46	380	0.86
1	\$ 12.05	0.46	640	0.86
1 1/4	\$ 17.92	0.46	960	0.86
1 1/2	\$ 24.20	0.46	1,300	0.86
2	\$ 37.92	0.46	2,100	0.86
3	\$ 73.60	0.46	3,900	0.86
4	\$ 121.00	0.46	6,400	0.86
6	\$ 242.00	0.46	12,800	0.86
8	\$578.00	0.46	30,700	0.86
10	\$ 915.60	0.46	48,600	0.86
12	\$ 1,210.00	0.46	64,000	0.86

In addition, a Purchased Water Adjustment will be applied to the Fallston Corridor Water for purchased water through the Whitaker Mill meter only.

**WHOLESALE WATER RATE**

To wholesale customers who purchase water in bulk sales from the County water system for which the County does not maintain the distribution system and from which no

- 4 - BILL NO. **95-40**

**AS AMENDED**

one-time connection charges were collected, the following rate shall apply:

\$1.21 per thousand gallons usage charge, plus \$.73 per thousand gallons for capital recovery, for a total charge of \$1.94 per thousand gallons.

In addition, a Purchased Water Adjustment shall be applied to the wholesale water purchased.

### **PURCHASED WATER SERVICES**

The County purchases water for resale from sources other than Harford County-owned facilities and proposes to purchase water from the City of Baltimore for treatment and resale.

Customers using water from those sources shall pay a Purchased Water Service Adjustment charge to be computed as follows:

1. The cost of water purchased during the period preceding the period being billed shall be divided by the total gallons consumed in that same period, and
2. The unit cost calculated in Step 1 above shall be multiplied by the total water consumed by each customer in the system in which purchased water was consumed, and
3. The amount calculated in Step 2 above shall be added to and be in addition to all other charges under the applicable water rate schedule, and
4. The purchased water rate adjustment shall be modified each billing period until the total cost of water purchased is recovered, and
5. When water is purchased from sources other than Harford County-owned

1 facilities, and is consumed in a water system which is physically separated from  
2 the rest of the County system, the calculations described in Steps 1, 2, 3, and  
3 4 above shall be performed separately for customers of that water system.

#### 4 **FIRE PROTECTION READY-TO-SERVE CHARGES**

5 This quarterly rate schedule reflects the cost of ready-to-serve oversized  
6 connections required to provide private on-site fire protection, such as sprinklers and  
7 private fire hydrants.

8 In accordance with the following chart, ready-to-serve charges would be in addition  
9 to all other applicable charges for water service.

10 The vertical ordinate represents the size of the connection installed for fire  
11 protection. This connection may be in the form of:

- 12 1. The larger meter in a compound meter installation which is intended for fire flow.
- 13 2. A by-pass line, around a service meter, which may or may not have a detector  
14 check valve.
- 15 3. A physically separate connection for use only for fire protection.
- 16 4. A physically separate meter connection for use only for fire protection.

17 The horizontal ordinate shows the size of the meter required for normal service.

18 Customers shall be billed the applicable usage charge based upon the service  
19 connection meter size (the smaller meter in a compound installation) under the normal rate  
20 schedule. In addition, the customer shall be charged a ready-to-serve charge as shown  
21 on the following table for the fire protection main.

BILL NO. **95-40**  
**AS AMENDED**

Each meter shall be considered a separate account for billing.

QUARTERLY (DOLLARS PER QUARTER)											
SERVICE CONNECTION SIZE											
FIRE CONN SIZE	5/8	3/4	1	1 1/4	1 1/2	2	3	4	6	8	10
12	1,200	1,195.	1,190.	1,185.	1,180.	1,165.	1,135.	1,085.	965.	625.	290.
10	910.	905.	900.	895.	890.	880.	840.	795.	675.	340.	
8	575.	570.	565.	560.	555.	540.	505.	460.	340.		
6	235.	233.	228.	225.	216.	200.	170.	120.			
4	115.	113.	108.	102.	96.	82.	48.				
3	67.	65.	60.	55.	48.	34.					
2	34.	31.	26.	20.	14.						
1 1/2	19.	17.	12.	6.							
1 1/4	13.	11.	6.								
1	7.	5.									
3/4	2.50										

- 7 - BILL NO. **95-40**

**AS AMENDED**



The following rates shall apply to sewer rates in Harford County unless otherwise specified.

**HARFORD COUNTY SEWER  
 BASE USAGE CHARGES AND RATES**

(INCLUDING THE JOPPATOWNE SANITARY SUBDISTRICT)

Water Meter Size  Inch	QUARTERLY			
	Base Usage Charge  \$ Amount	Base Rate  \$/1,000 Gallons	Excess Rate Threshold 1,000 Gallons	Excess Usage Rate \$/1,000 Gallons
5/8	\$ 3.80	\$ 2.10	32	\$ 2.50
3/4	\$ 21.42	\$ 2.10	380	\$ 2.50
1	\$ 35.70	\$ 2.10	640	\$ 2.50
1 1/4	\$ 51.54	\$ 2.10	960	\$ 2.50
1 1/2	\$ 71.40	\$ 2.10	1,300	\$ 2.50
2	\$ 114.24	\$ 2.10	2,100	\$ 2.50
3	\$ 243.00	\$ 2.10	3,900	\$ 2.50
4	\$ 357.00	\$ 2.10	6,400	\$ 2.50
6	\$ 714.00	\$ 2.10	12,800	\$ 2.50
8	\$ 1,713.00	\$ 2.10	30,700	\$ 2.50
10	\$ 2,706.00	\$ 2.10	48,600	\$ 2.50
12	\$ 3,550.00	\$ 2.10	64,000	\$ 2.50
Flat Rate	\$ 41.00	--	--	--

The flat rate shall be charged to all customers who are not served by a metered water

1 connection.

2 **SWAN CREEK AND HARFORD SYSTEMS**  
3 **SEWER BASE USAGE CHARGES AND RATES**

4  
5 The following rates shall apply to areas serviced by Harford County but for which the City  
6 of Aberdeen treats the wastewater.

7

QUARTERLY				
Water Meter Size Inch	Base Usage Charge \$ Amount	Base Rate \$/1,000 Gallons	Excess Usage Threshold 1,000 Gallons	Excess Usage Rate \$/1,000 Gallons
5/8	\$ 4.38	0.87	32	1.25
3/4	\$ 6.57	0.87	380	1.25
1	\$ 10.95	0.87	640	1.25
1 1/4	\$ 15.99	0.87	960	1.25
1 1/2	\$ 21.90	0.87	1,300	1.25
2	\$ 35.24	0.87	2,100	1.25
3	\$ 65.70	0.87	3,900	1.25
Flat Rate	\$ 11.40	--	--	--

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21 The flat rate shall be charged to all customers who are not served by a metered  
22 water connection. In addition, a purchased wastewater treatment service adjustment shall  
23 apply to Swan Creek and Harford System customers.

**SPRING MEADOWS SEWER USAGE CHARGE AS AMENDED**

Spring Meadows is a non-metered service. Therefore, a flat rate of \$ 55.00 per quarter shall be charged to each customer served by sewers in this sanitary subdistrict.

**METERED SEWER SERVICE**

Those customers who have elected to have a wastewater meter installed shall be charged the following rates for metered sewer service:

QUARTERLY				
Sewer Line Size	Base Usage Charge	Base Rate	Excess Usage Threshold	Excess Usage Rate
Inch	\$ Amount	\$/1,000 Gallons	1,000 Gallons	\$/1,000 Gallons
6	\$ 114.24	\$ 2.10	2,100	\$ 2.50
8	\$ 243.00	\$ 2.10	3,900	\$ 2.50
10	\$ 357.00	\$ 2.10	6,400	\$ 2.50
12	\$ 714.00	\$ 2.10	12,800	\$ 2.50

**MUNICIPAL CUSTOMERS**

Municipalities who have separate contracts for sewerage service with the County shall pay the usage rate determined according to the terms of the applicable contractual agreement. Municipalities without a contract for sewerage service with the County shall pay the usage rate as established by this Act.

**PURCHASED WASTEWATER TREATMENT SERVICE ADJUSTMENT**

The County purchases service for transmitting and treating wastewater from the City

of Aberdeen for areas within the Harford County service area.

**AS AMENDED**

Customers shall pay a purchased wastewater treatment service adjustment charge to be computed as follows:

1. The cost of purchased wastewater treatment service during the period preceding the period being billed shall be divided by the total gallons metered at the connection points to the Aberdeen sewer system during that same period, and
2. The unit cost calculated in step 1 above shall be multiplied by the total wastewater discharged by each customer.
3. For purposes of this computation, flat rate customers shall be assigned a quarterly usage of 18,000 gallons, and
4. The amounts calculated in steps 2 and 3 above shall be added to and be in addition to all other charges under the Swan Creek and Harford systems wastewater rate schedules, and
5. The purchased wastewater treatment service adjustment shall be modified each billing period until the total cost of purchased wastewater treatment service is recovered.

### **ANNUAL ECONOMIC INDICATOR ADJUSTMENT**

All water and sewer charges and rates described herein with the exception of the Purchase Water Service Adjustment and the Purchased Wastewater Treatment Service Adjustment shall be adjusted annually based on the economic indicator Consumer Price Index (CPI). Each fiscal year these charges and rates will be adjusted to reflect

1 the annual change of the "Consumer Price Index " for "All Urban Consumers" for the  
2 expenditure category "All Items Not Seasonally Adjusted", and for all regions. The  
3 annual Consumer Price Index for the period ending each December, as published by  
4 the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor, shall be used to adjust  
5 all charges and rates to be applied beginning July 1 of the following fiscal year. This  
6 Annual Economic Indicator Adjustment shall become effective for the billing period  
7 beginning July ~~1997~~ 1996.

8 Section 2. And Be It Further Enacted that the rates set by this Act for water and  
9 sewer services shall be applied to water consumption and sewer usage during the first  
10 full billing quarter after passage, and from and after that date, the rates shall be as set  
11 by this Act unless otherwise changed by law.

12 Section 3. And Be It Further Enacted that this Act shall take effect sixty (60) calendar  
13 days from the date it becomes law.

14 EFFECTIVE: October 2, 1995

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HARFORD COUNTY BILL NO. 95-40 (as amended)

(Brief Title) Establish New Water & Sewer Rates

is herewith submitted to the County Council of Harford County for enrollment as being the text as finally passed.

CERTIFIED TRUE AND CORRECT

ENROLLED

[Signature]  
Secretary of the Council

[Signature]  
President of the Council

Date 7/18/95

Date July 18, 1995

BY THE COUNCIL

Read the third time.

Passed: LSD 95-22 (July 18, 1995)

Failed of Passage: \_\_\_\_\_

By Order

[Signature]  
Secretary

Sealed with the County Seal and presented to the County Executive for approval this 20th day of July, 1995 at 3:00 p. m.

[Signature]  
Secretary

BY THE EXECUTIVE

[Signature]  
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

APPROVED: Date August 1, 1995

BY THE COUNCIL

This Bill (No. 95-40, as amended), having been approved by the Executive and returned to the Council, becomes law on August 1, 1995.

[Signature]  
Secretary

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 2, 1995